



COURTESY PHOTO

The Everett High Marching Band, back from their acclaimed part in the December 7 anniversary of Pearl Harbor service in Hawaii, will be headed to Washington D.C. to take part in the annual Memorial Day Service. The band will be in the capital from May 27-31. State Senator Sal DiDomenico has successfully secured the entire funding of the trip. The band is also slated to give a special performance for President Joseph Biden at the White House.

Impact / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the continuing effort to make up lost academic ground for students.

Local programs such as “What I Need” that are geared toward students’ areas of concern are helping to make up the lost academic ground.

Webster School Principal Christopher Barrett was a special guest at the meeting to highlight some of the efforts being undertaken at the Webster School “to make up for lost time,” with teachers “going above and beyond” with new and innovative programs.

He pointed out that the school is thriving and everyday there are gains being made at each grade.

“We lost a lot,” Barrett told the committee.

Barrett also pointed out that the school motto of, “Kindness, Effort and Success,” is paying off as the students, teachers, and parents are coming together to make the Webster a safe place for the diverse community by giving rewards to students and keeping parents involved by publishing newsletters of the activities going on at the school.

“The Webster School will remain a top-notch school,” Barrett told the committee.

COVID REPORT

Thus far, the February School vacation seems to have had little impact on the health of the general school population and faculty of the Everett public schools.

At last week’s meeting, when the committee voted to make the wearing of masks optional for both the staff and students, there was a fear among some members to wait for the COVID numbers for the first week back to make sure there was no post-vacation spike.

The preliminary numbers for the first six days of March show that only six staff and students had COVID. For the entire month of February, only 41 tested positive, as compared to 582 in January.

School Committee member Millie Cardello wanted to make sure that there were enough test kits for every student and staff member to have and use during the April school vacation.

Tahiliani told the committee that there have been enough test kits purchased for April.

STATE FUNDS

Tahiliani pointed out the continuing effort to obtain a share of the \$1.5 billion state grant that

highlights and funds the academic priorities for local schools. While the original program has been delayed by COVID, she said that in the first year, 390 participants identified expanded areas, such as staff recruitment, high quality curriculum, early college help, new electives, and mental health needs, are some of the programs that both parents and students are interested in being made available.

LEARNING DURING THE BREAK

Tahiliani pointed out that 390 students took part in the Acceleration Academy during the February school vacation. The program was open for students in grades 3-10 and had 28 teachers in the classrooms working on the academic needs of the students.

ON THE ROAD

The Everett Percussion Ensemble will travel to Dayton, Ohio for the WGI Percussion Ensemble World Championships. The students will leave Everett on April 19 and return on April 24. The committee was told that the money was already in the budget to fully fund the trip.

Everett celebrates Women’s History Month

The commemoration of Women’s History Month by the City of Everett, themed Project F.O.R.W.A.R.D., is grounded in Mayor DeMaria’s DEI agenda, to engage, educate, and elevate in order to create a stronger Everett for everyone. With guidance and direction from First Lady Stacy DeMaria, this month will focus on ways to strengthen the economic progress of women throughout their lives. That includes the assurance that women owned businesses have the tools and support necessary to equitably access opportunities to work with the City of Everett.

March’s activities will include support from several key departments in the City of Everett. The Procurement Department will host an educational session that provides key information for becoming a City of Everett vendor. Additionally, because of the Mayor’s focus on expanding opportunities for women and girls to explore career and business opportunities that have been historically male

dominated, this month the City will highlight and promote such opportunities through a Girl’s Day focused on public safety and trade careers. Girl’s Day will happen at the Everett Recreation Center. The March Lunch and Learn session will include a panel discussion with women who have successfully navigated male dominated career fields. Finally, the City of Everett will recognize women whose everyday lives and professional pursuits are strengthening and reinforcing the efforts for women’s advancement and equity through featured online profiles and a networking event to culminate the month’s activities.

In both their 2021 annual report and report on the status of girls in the Commonwealth, The Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women noted as a key finding the persistent vulnerable economic reality of women. Both reports assert the financial inequity women face in Massachusetts is directly linked to the sys-

temic oppression of girls and women. If women in Massachusetts are ever to reach pay equity, opportunities must be created and reinforced that bridge the gaps that long standing gender inequality has created in both the education and economic empowerment of women.

The DeMaria administration has consistently championed the advancement women. Women hold key positions on his executive team and are a significant percentage of those employed in City Hall. Coupled with Mayor Carlo DeMaria’s three-point diversity, equity and inclusion platform: Engage. Educate. Elevate, the events and activities will highlight best practices already underway and further address the economic vulnerability of women during the month of March. Please check the City of Everett’s website www.cityofeverett.com or follow us on social Facebook @MayorCarloDeMaria, Instagram @MayorCarloDeMaria and Twitter @Mayor_DeMaria.

Encore Boston Harbor Spa offers marathon relief massage to runners

Encore Boston Harbor will be offering a massage to help those training for the Boston Marathon and also those runners who complete the marathon and would like to realign and are in search of pain relief. Starting Thursday, April 7, and lasting through April 22, anyone needing to revive and rejuvenate their muscles can do so with this signature 90-minute or 120-minute treatment.

The Encore Boston Harbor Spa’s Myofascial Release Massage is available starting at \$270 and is a hands-on therapeutic technique that works to relax, lengthen and realign your fascia. The goal is to bring pain relief, as well as give back the full range of motion. Myofascial release applies stretches and sustained pressure on targeted areas of connective tissue (fascia) that surround muscles and bones. This pressure is meant to release the restriction in the connective tissue so


that runners have greater range of motion and less pain. This massage is ideal to release stubborn muscle knots and general chronic muscle tension and is perfect post-marathon.

Spa guests are invited to come one hour before the treatment to enjoy the heat and water facilities that comprise a hot and cold plunge uniquely designed for runners and muscle assistance. The cold plunge helps control joint inflammation and enhances muscle recovery, while the hot plunge helps to relax tight muscles and stimulate the release of endorphins.


The eucalyptus steam room, a dry heat sauna that improves overall cardiovascular health, increases blood flow to skeletal and muscle and increases efficiency of oxygen transport to muscles. Lavish relaxation heated seats complete the therapeutic experience. For reservations, log onto www.encorebostonharbor.com or call (857) 770-3900.

Encore Boston Harbor is an integrated gaming destination consisting of a 210,000 square foot casino, 671 spacious hotel rooms, spa, salon and fitness center, specialty retail shops, 15 dining and lounge venues and more than 50,000 square feet of state-of-the-art ballroom and meeting spaces. Situated on the waterfront in Everett, MA and connected to Boston Harbor, Encore Boston Harbor’s grounds feature a six-acre Harborwalk with pedestrian and bicycle paths that provide access to the Mystic River, an events lawn, public art and ornate floral displays. It is the largest private, single-phase development in the history of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The resort offers free self-parking for Red Card members from 5:00 a.m. on Monday through 5:00 p.m. on Friday, or for one COMPDOLLAR on weekends and at the resort valet.




- LEGAL NOTICE -
CITY OF EVERETT



BOARD OF APPEALS
484 BROADWAY
EVERETT, MASSACHUSETTS 02149
PHONE 617-394-2498 FAX 617-394-2433
To Whom It May Concern:
This notice is to inform you that a public hearing will be held on Monday, March 21, 2022 at 6:00 PM, Everett City Hall, 3rd Floor George Keverian Hearing Room. All interested parties may attend and opinions will be heard regarding the following petition.
Whereas a petition has been presented by:
Property Address: 403 Main Street
Map/Lot: D0-01-000026
Person Requesting: Alfred Lattanzi
57 Peirce Ave.
Everett, Ma 02149
PROPOSAL:
Applicant seeks to build three additional stories on and around the existing two buildings on this 8317 Square foot lot that exists in the Business Zoning District. The building will contain a mixed use that will include sixteen residential units and two commercial units. The existing buildings are currently non-conforming and the applicant will require a Special Permit and a determination from the board that by extending his non-conforming condition on the front and side offsets that this will not be more detrimental to the neighborhood.
In the rear of the property the new building will require relief in the form of a variance for the set back of six (6) feet four (4) inches.
The F.A.R. for this project will be at 3.2.
Reason for Denial:
Permit was denied in accordance to the City of Everett Zoning Ordinance Appendix A as follows:
1. Appendix A section (6) (B) (2) - Lot Area: All other Uses--2 to 1 maximum floor area. The proposed plan includes a floor area ratio of 3.2 to 1. (variance)
2. Appendix A section (6) (B). (6) Rear Yard: Twenty-five (25) feet minimum unless the lot extends from one (1) street to another street, in which case no rear yard is required, except for any residential use which shall require a ten-foot minimum. (Ord. of 6-29-87) (variance)
3. Appendix A section (6) (B). (4) - Front Yard: (Conforming for the current use) Requires the minimum of 10' setback for residential uses. The building is currently at the property line. (Variance Required)
4. Appendix A section (6). (B). Side Yard: (8) Corner Lot: (Existing Non- Conforming) None Required except seven (7) feet when residential use. (Ord. of 6-29-87). The building is currently at the property lines. (Special Permit Required)
5. Appendix A Section 3 General Requirements (C): which states the following:
"Existing non-conforming structure or uses may be extended or altered, provided that such extension, alteration or change of use shall be permitted only upon the grant of a Special Permit by the zoning board of appeals after a public hearing and a finding by the board that such extension, alteration or change of use shall not be substantially more detrimental to the neighborhood than the existing non-conforming use or structure.
The applicant is requesting Relief from the City of Everett Zoning Board of Appeals for a Use Variance to make this a Mixed-Use Building.
Parking will be completed through the TDM
MARY GERACE
Chairman
Roberta Suppa - Clerk
Board of Appeals

March 2, 2022
March 9, 2022

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Whereas a petition has been presented by:
Property Address: 10 Plumer Street
Map/Lot: L0-01-0000117
Person Requesting: Audames Nelson
10 Plumer Street
Everett, MA 02149
PROPOSAL:
The owner/applicant proposes to change the use of an existing single-family house, built in 1870, and convert it to a two-family residence. The existing 3,528 Square Foot lot is located in a Dwelling District.
Reason for Denial:
Permit was denied in accordance to the City of Everett Zoning Ordinance Appendix A as follows:
Section 4 Dwelling Districts (b) Dimensional Requirements (2) b. - requires a lot size of 7000 sf for a two-family structure. Applicant must seek relief in the form of a Variance as the existing lot is 3,528 Square Feet and is deficient 3,472.
ection 4 Dwelling Districts (17), (B), (2) Lot Area: Dimensional Requirements.
Requires a minimum lot size of 7000 square feet for a two-family dwelling


MARY GERACE
Chairman
Roberta Suppa - Clerk
Board of Appeals

March 2, 2022
March 9, 2022

A SHORT STORY ABOUT
GROWING UP WITH AN
UNFAIR ADVANTAGE.

POLIO.


As one of the last American children to contract polio, Jeffrey Galpin grew up in a world of iron lungs and body casts, alone with his imagination. His story would be dramatic enough if it was just about his battle with this dreaded disease.
But Jeffrey Galpin did more than survive polio. He went on to a list of achievements in medical research—including being the principal investigator in applying the first gene therapy for HIV/AIDS.
Dr. Galpin actually credits his own incurable condition for giving him the focus that made him so passionate in his research. His story leaves us with two of the most contagious messages we know. Don't give up, and remember to give back. If Dr. Galpin's story inspires just one more person to make a difference, then its telling here has been well worth while.



american
Academy of
Orthopaedic
Surgeons

aaos.org/75years

AAOS
CELEBRATING
HUMAN HEALING
orthoinfo.org



Five elected women leaders in Chelsea endorse Judith Garcia for State Rep.

Chelsea City Councilor, community leader, and current candidate for State Representative Judith Garcia kicked off Women’s History Month by announcing the endorsements of five key women leaders in Chelsea.

Endorsing Garcia today are: Chelsea City Councilor Tanairi García; Chelsea School Committee Chair Kelly García; and Chelsea School Committee Members Yessenia Alfaro, Claryangeliz Covas, and Kati Cabral.

“I’m honored by the support of five fearless women who share my vision for a better public school system and a big, bright future for Chelsea and Everett,” said García. “All of them are working tirelessly to make Chelsea a more fair, equitable place to raise a family. I will work just as hard for our community on Beacon Hill and look forward to continuing to partner with them for the years to come.”

In their endorsements, all five elected officials praised Garcia’s worth ethic and strong support for educational equity. She will not only support the millionaire’s tax to fully fund public education but also make sure the money goes to the communities that need it the most.

“The first day that I met Judith Garcia she was door-knocking for her first campaign for city council against a long-time in-



Judith Garcia, candidate for state representative.

cumbent and we bonded over growing up Latina in Chelsea and the common goal to make a positive change in Massachusetts. I’ve known Judith to be a trailblazer and I am elated to endorse her as our State Representative of the 11th Suffolk District” - Kati Cabral, Chelsea School Committee member.

“It is my pleasure to endorse Judith Garcia for 11th Suffolk’s state representative. As an alumna of Chelsea Public Schools, Judith knows better than anyone how vital education is for our children, and I know she will fight for their futures in the Massachusetts State House.” - Kelly Garcia, Chelsea School Committee Chairwoman

“I am thrilled to endorse Judith Garcia for 11th Suffolk’s state representative. Judith has worked tirelessly as a Chelsea City Councilor, and I know she will bring the same determination to the State House. Chelsea and Everett need

a champion, and Judith is the best person for the job.” - Yessenia Alfaro, Chelsea School Committee

“Judith understands that communities like Chelsea and Everett have never settled. These are communities that have fought to persevere through any challenge. Now, we need someone at the state level who will fight for a fair shake from our state. That’s why I believe Judith is precisely the type of leader that the state house needs now to help push along, among other issues, income equality, economic access and empowerment, narrowing the opportunity gap in our public schools, and affordability for all residents who call Chelsea and Everett home.” - Tanairi Garcia, Chelsea City Councilor

“I support Judith Garcia because she embodies the integrity and work ethic of the trailblazers whose shoulders she stands on. I have witnessed her overcome adversity, connect with city residents, resolve endless uphill battles with a vision of hope, unity, and attainable change.” - Claryangeliz Covas, Chelsea School Committee

The endorsements mark both the start of Women’s History Month and one week since García announced her candidacy as the only woman in a race with two primary opponents.

FROM THE MAYOR’S OFFICE

Meet the team: Lisa Dell Isola

Lisa Dell Isola is a Retirement Analyst and has worked for the City of Everett for 9 years.

What do you do in the City?

I work in the Retirement Office. Here we service both the members, and the retirees of the City. I am responsible for many duties, including, preparing and processing the monthly retirement allowance payroll and the annual 1099R’s, prepare and process monthly accounts payable warrants, and I assure that all members contributions are properly



credited, transferred, and I calculate creditable service and make up payments.

What is your favorite part about working for

the City?

My favorite part is talking with and helping the employees and retirees.

What is the biggest lesson you’ve learned from your role?

The biggest lesson I’ve learned is that kindness and patience goes a long way.

What do you like to do when you are not working?

When I am not working, I love spending time with my family and my grandchildren.

Officials announce March programs at Belle Isle Marsh

Officials for the North Region Coastal District of the Belle Isle Marsh Reservation Department of Conservation and Recreation announce the following programs in March.

All Programs are free and open to the public. An adult must accompany children. Reasonable accommodations available upon request. Please follow all current COVID guidelines: Mass.gov/COVID.

Dress for the weather including possible ice or mud on the ground. Boots are recommended. For more information call (781) 656-1485 or email matthew.nash@mass.gov

The DCR’s Belle Isle Marsh Reservation parking lot, is located at 1399 Bennington Street, East Boston

An Oasis for Birds

Saturdays, March 19 7:30–8:30am

We will search on foot up to one mile, on flat, easy terrain for Snowy

Owls and other raptors, native sparrows, finches and waterfowl at this Birding Hotspot & MA State Park.

Expect to move to different locations by car or bicycle. Prepare for mosquitoes and ticks. Ages: Adults and kids 8+ with adult chaperone. Binoculars recommended.

Co-sponsored by the Brookline Bird Club and the Friends of Belle Isle Marsh.

Note that this program meets every month of the year on the first and third Saturday of the month except when occurring on State or National Holidays.

The Sky Dance of the Timberdoodle

Tuesday, March 22 6:30-7:30 pm

Come witness a special live performance of one of the most remarkable courtship rituals in the natural world of the male American Woodcock, aka “Timberdoodle.”

This odd-looking shorebird struts, sings and sky dances for his prospective mate in a performance that you won’t want to miss! If you have a flashlight, you may bring it for our short walk back after viewing. Ages: Adults and kids 8+ with adult chaperone. Binoculars recommended.

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, dams, and parkways. Led by Acting DCR Commissioner Stephanie Cooper, the agency’s mission is to protect, promote, and enhance our commonwealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources.

To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please visit www.mass.gov/dcr.

Mammograms Save Lives.

All women over 40 should have a mammogram once a year. Breast cancer found early offers the best chance to be cured. Free or low cost mammograms are available.

For more information and answers to any of your cancer questions, contact us any time, day or night.

www.cancer.org 1.800.ACS.2345

Hope.Progress.Answers.®



- LEGAL NOTICE - CITY OF EVERETT



BOARD OF APPEALS
484 BROADWAY
EVERETT, MASSACHUSETTS 02149
PHONE 617-394-2498 FAX 617-394-2433

To Whom It May Concern:

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Whereas a petition has been presented by:

Property Address: 21 Locust Street
Map/Lot: D0-02-000010
Person Requesting: Chris Lianos
21 Locust Street
Everett, Ma 02149

PROPOSAL:

Applicant seeks to change the use of the existing two (2) family dwelling and convert it to a three (3) family dwelling within a Dwelling District.

• A single or double semi-detached dwelling existing at the time of the first enactment of, the Zoning Ordinance may be converted to provide not more than a total of three (3) dwelling units provided that the following standards are met: Any addition shall comply with the front, side and rear yard requirements and height limitations of the Zoning Ordinance. Where the existing building is already non-conforming, any alteration shall not increase the existing non-conformity. Parking in accordance with this Zoning Ordinance shall be provided for any additional dwelling units.

Reason for Denial:

Permit was denied in accordance to the City of Everett Zoning Ordinance Appendix A as follows:

• Section 17 (C) requires buildings undergoing a change of use to comply with parking requirements set forth in Section 17 (A) (Multifamily dwellings = 2 spaces per dwelling unit)

The change to a three family would require a variance as the plan shows parking for five (5) vehicles, six (6) would be required.

• Section 4 Dwelling Districts (b) Dimensional Regulations (2) Lot Area (c): “All other uses-----0.5 maximum floor area ratio

•The change of use to a three (3) family requires the proposal to comply with the zoning ordinance for density. The requested proposal would result in a floor area ratio of .61. The Applicant must seek relief in the form of a variance from the Zoning Board of Appeals. The .61 is a violation of the Cities Ordinance at .11 over the maximum allowed.

MARY GERACE
Chairman
Roberta Suppa - Clerk
Board of Appeals

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Whereas a petition has been presented by:

Property Address: 21 High Street
Map/Lot: L0-02-000134
Person Requesting: Mr. Brian Savi
21 High Street
Everett, MA 02149
Email Address: Brians7134@gmail.com
Phone 857-222-2519

PROPOSAL:

The applicant seeks to convert the existing 2 family residence built in approximately 1892 into a 3-family residence. This lot resides in the dwelling district and contains 4950 Square feet of land. The calculated floor area for this property will be at 3816. The plan shows vehicles will be backed out of the driveway to exit.

Reason for Denial:

Permit was denied in accordance to the City of Everett Zoning Ordinance Appendix A as follows:

• The FAR (floor area ratio) for the proposed use is .77.
• The proposed plan would require the applicant to show only two cars parking as this dwelling predates zoning (1926) and would only require parking for the proposed units 2 (two), however these vehicles would be required to back out onto High Street Terrace.

Zoning:

Section 4, Dwelling Districts, (b), Dimensional Requirements: C. All other uses-----0.5 maximum floor area ratio (Ord. of 6-29-87; Ord. of 4-29-91 Ord. of 7/16/2002; Ord. of 11/13/2007)

Relief will be need as the current plan will exceed the FAR by .27

Section 17, Off street Parking: (O), 4, prohibits parking areas serving buildings of more than 2 units to be designed to allow vehicles to back into the street or driveway. The applicant must seek relief in the form of a variance to allow a vehicle to back into the street or driveway.

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Whereas a petition has been presented by:

Property Address: 21 Baldwin Ave.
Map/Lot: D-03-000193
Person Requesting: Junjie Zhu
32 Edgewater Ave.
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

PROPOSAL:

The applicant seeks to alter the exiting single family into a two-family Dwelling

Reason for Denial:

Permit was denied in accordance to the City of Everett Zoning Ordinance Appendix A as follows:

• The existing lot is only 2953 square feet in area
• While four parking spaces have been indicated on the plot plan that are shown to be stacked parked
• One of the parking spaces is shown to be located in the front yard

Zoning:

1) Section 4 Dwelling District b) Dimensional Requirements line 2 Lot area:

2. Lot Area: b. Two Family Dwelling -----7000 Square Feet

2) Section 17 Off-street Parking line J which states the following:

J. Parking facilities shall be designed so that each motor vehicle may proceed to and from the parking space provided for it without requiring the moving of any other motor vehicle. The Board of Appeals, however, may by special permit modify this requirement and the dimensional requirements of paragraph (I) of this section, where a parking facility is under full-time attendant supervision.

5) Section 17 Off-Street Parking paragraph K which states the following:

K. Parking facilities shall be designed so that no vehicles shall be parked nearer to any street lines than the minimum specified building setback for the Zoning District in which the parking facility is located.

MARY GERACE
Chairman
Roberta Suppa - Clerk
Board of Appeals

March 2, 2022
March 9, 2022

Everett

Independent

President: Stephen Quigley

Editor in Chief: Cary Shuman

PUTIN: PURE EVIL

As regular readers of this column know, we do not view events in terms of “good vs. evil.”

Over the years, we have referred to tobacco companies, polluters, et als as greedy and despicable, but describing them as “evil-doers,” as former President George W. Bush did in referring to the plotters behind the 9/11 attacks, or labeling Iraq, Iran, and No. Korea as the “axis of evil,” as Bush did in his 2002 State of the Union speech, always struck us as an overly-simplistic way to refer to those with whom we disagree, a verbal short-cut to avoid trying to explain complex matters.

But sometimes words cannot be found to discuss events for which there is no rational explanation. The more we try, the more we realize that sometimes, words are nothing more than hollow, shallow, and meaningless keystrokes on our laptops.

The actions of Hitler and the Nazis before and during WWII fit into this category.

And so too, is the tragedy that is unfolding hour-by-hour in Ukraine, where the civilian population is being wiped out by the whims of a semi-mad and sociopathic 70 year-old dictator.

Evil -- pure “evil” -- is the only word that comes to mind when we think of Vladimir Putin.

That’s all we’ve got. But that says it all.

ENERGY RELIEF IS NEEDED -- SUSPEND THE GASOLINE TAX

Other than a couple of on-air Fox TV personalities, the vast majority of Americans are outraged about the situation in Ukraine.

But there isn’t much that we in the U.S. can do about it directly, whether individually (unless we want to join the Ukrainian army) or collectively (unless we want to start a nuclear World War III).

Yes, the U.S. is working with other nations in supplying weapons and humanitarian aid to Ukraine. We also have imposed unprecedented and devastating economic sanctions upon Russia that already are wreaking havoc with the Russian economy.

But what has not been done is the big one: Shutting-off the spigot of Russian natural gas and oil, the means by which Putin is able to finance his war and his hold on the Russian people.

Congress is in the process of passing a bill that would ban the import of Russian oil into this country. Apparently, we get seven percent of our oil from Russia.

The Biden administration has been hesitant to do so because it fears that this would cause a huge spike in the price of gasoline, which would further fuel inflation.

However, we cannot offer platitudes to the Ukrainian people and talk about our commitment to democracy and peace if we are unwilling to make sacrifices ourselves.

Congress and the Biden administration can soften the effect upon average Americans of skyrocketing energy costs in a number of ways, either through direct payments to income-qualifying Americans or even subsidies to domestic energy producers, with the caveat that they need to increase production here in America. (In fact, our domestic oil producers are engaging in nothing less than crass war-profiteering by refusing to produce more oil and natural gas, which they easily can do and as they have done in the past, in order to flood the world market and bring prices down.)

The state and federal governments also can suspend the tax on gasoline. In California for example, the per-gallon state tax is 51 cents and the federal tax is 18 cents. Here in Mass., our state tax is 24 cents.

If the world is to turn the tide against the Putin regime, we must be willing to make sacrifices on an individual level. If that means paying more for gasoline, then that’s what we have to do.

But governments can soften the blow upon average Americans of soaring energy costs, which will have ripple effects throughout the economy, and should take action to do so immediately.

Independent Forum

GUEST OP-ED

Is Vladimir Putin the Devil?

to produce any kind of a human gesture. The head of Putin is shaped like a Devil’s head. The one thing you’ll never see is his rear end because his long tail gives his identity away.

The appearance of Putin unfortunately is not what gives his identity away. The lifelong actions of Putin give him away. He is the chief producer of the slaughter of hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians and possibly millions before this invasion is over, if it’s ever over. Anyone who can take the lives of innocent people simply because he wants to control a particular part of the world is again, evil.

Putin wants the Ukrainian people to live like Russia’s people and to control their lives, their

government, what they do and where they go. He is our modern-day Adolph Hitler. There is nothing good to say about him.

The Devil wants to control our lives. He wants to bring us down to where we are under his dominion. He wants our lives to be filled with darkness, hopelessness and bound to his wishes. We see this in everyday life. People are in slavery to addiction, greed, perversions, hatred, jealousy, depression and more. We war within ourselves but our inward war often turns outward and impacts people around us. People kill people. People maim others with words and attitudes and actions that often destroy themselves and others. This is the work of the Devil. He

is about devouring and destroying. He often comes across as an angel of light. He pretends he wants us to be fulfilled by not being denied anything. This is how the serpent approached Eve in the Bible. The Devil still uses this trick all the time and it still works much of the time.

Is Putin the real literal Devil? You judge for yourself or ask someone from Ukraine.

Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist – American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week In over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.

Dr. Glenn Mollette

There is nothing good to be said about the Devil. If you don’t believe me, check out Bible. Or, just turn on the television for a reporting of the evil he spreads throughout the world. You will likely see his picture, Vladimir Putin, the President of Russia.

Some people say they don’t believe in the existence of the Devil. I do, his name is Vladimir Putin.

Look at the face of Putin. You will see the Devil. Look at his dark eerie eyes and his pointed ears. When he attempts to smile, you’ll notice his tongue rolls out like a serpent’s. His smile is never genuine but is always forced as he has no heart

Merger plans for East Cambridge Savings Bank and Patriot Community Bank announced

1854 Bancorp, the mutual holding company of East Cambridge Savings Bank, and Patriot Community Bank, a cooperative bank headquartered in Woburn, Massachusetts, have jointly announced today that they have reached a definitive merger agreement in which 1854 Bancorp will acquire Patriot Community Bank for \$15.75 in cash per share.

Upon completion of the merger, East Cambridge Savings Bank will operate Patriot Community Bank’s one office as a branch of East Cambridge Savings Bank. East Cambridge Savings Bank’s proforma assets are expected to exceed \$1.5 billion and will operate a branch network of 11 banking centers.

East Cambridge Savings Bank President and CEO Gilda M. Nogueira stated, “We are pleased to announce this partnership. As local community banks, we are committed to serving communities that we have long been a part of. Through this merger, we look forward to providing expanded banking services and convenience to consumers and small businesses that have long looked to Patriot Commu-

nity Bank for their banking needs. Our organizations, with similar corporate cultures and values, credit our long-term success to the confidence and trust of the many local residents and businesses we serve. We are committed to continuing as a strong financial and community partner.”

John O’Donnell, President and CEO of Patriot Community Bank, stated, “We are excited to partner with East Cambridge Savings Bank and I am confident that this merger will continue Patriot Community Bank’s longstanding commitment to our customers, communities, and employees. East Cambridge Savings Bank has a 168-year history of working with customers and businesses to help them grow and thrive which is exactly what Patriot Community Bank has strived to do since our founding. This partnership brings together two community-focused local banks that are dedicated to helping our customers, supporting employees, and serving our communities.” Mr. O’Donnell will remain with East Cambridge Savings Bank as an Executive Vice President, Senior Commercial Lending Offi-

cer, following the completion of the merger.

The merger is subject to regulatory approval and the approval of the shareholders of Patriot Community Bank. The transaction is expected to close in the third quarter of 2022.

Goodwin Procter LLP served as legal counsel to 1854 Bancorp and East Cambridge Savings Bank, and The Kafavian Group, Inc. served as financial advisor to 1854 Bancorp and East Cambridge Savings Bank. Griffin Financial Group LLC served as financial advisor and provided a fairness opinion to Patriot Community Bank and K&L Gates LLP served as legal counsel to Patriot Community Bank.

1854 Bancorp is a mutual holding company and the parent company of East Cambridge Savings Bank. East Cambridge Savings Bank is a full-service mutually-held bank that is committed to be the preferred banking partner in the communities it serves. Established in 1854, the Bank strives to provide an exceptional customer experience and generous support for the community. Headquartered in Cambridge, the Bank has locations in

Arlington, Belmont, Cambridge, Chelsea, Malden, Medford, Somerville, and Waltham, as well as an educational training facility at Cambridge Rindge and Latin School. The Bank is a member of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), the Depositors Insurance Fund (DIF), and is an Equal Housing Lender. For more information about East Cambridge Savings Bank, please visit www.ecsb.com.

Patriot Community Bank is an independent state co-operative chartered bank with consolidated assets of \$208 million as of December 31, 2021. Patriot Community Bank is a full-service community bank headquartered in Woburn, Massachusetts. Founded in 2006, Patriot Community Bank provides a full range of consumer and commercial deposit and lending products to the communities surrounding Woburn. The Bank is a member of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), the Depositors Insurance Fund (DIF), and is an Equal Housing Lender. For more information about Patriot Community Bank, please visit www.patriotcb.com.

USS Constitution opens lottery for Easter egg hunt

USS Constitution opened a lottery for the chance to participate in an Easter egg hunt aboard the ship from 8 to 10 a.m. Saturday, April 16.

The Easter Egg hunt is intended for children ages 12 and below and can be entered through the following link: <https://einventions.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=631421&k=0462430D7956>.

The deadline to enter the lottery is March 28 with the

winners notified on April 1. 25 winners and their immediate families will be selected to join Old Ironsides’ crew in an Easter Egg Hunt across the ship’s decks.

Children and their families will be able to hunt for six eggs to turn into USS Constitution Sailors for a candy reward with alternatives provided in case of allergies.

Additionally, five wooden eggs, made from USS

Constitution wood, will be hidden for children to find and keep as souvenirs.

USS Constitution is the world’s oldest commissioned warship afloat and played a crucial role in the Barbary Wars and the War of 1812, actively defending sea lanes from 1797 to 1855.

The active-duty Sailors stationed aboard USS Constitution provide free tours and offer public visitation as they support the ship’s

mission of promoting the Navy’s history and maritime heritage and raising awareness of the importance of a sustained naval presence.

USS Constitution was undefeated in battle and destroyed or captured 33 opponents.

The ship earned the nickname of Old Ironsides during the war of 1812 when British cannonballs were seen bouncing off the ship’s wooden hull.

Skinner / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

as the General Counsel for the Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance. She also served as General Counsel to the Boston Public Health Commission.

“I am delighted to learn of the appointment of our respected colleague, Nakisha Skinner, as Commissioner of the MGC,” said MGC Chair Cathy Judd-

Stein. “Having worked with Nakisha as our chief of licensing I know the dedication, experience, and passion that she brings to her work. An appointment of a new commissioner so familiar with the issues facing the MGC will allow a seamless transition. I look forward to continuing to serve with Nakisha in her new role

and am thankful to the Treasurer for making this appointment.”

The Massachusetts Gaming Commission was created after “An Act Establishing Expanded Gaming in the Commonwealth” was signed into law on November 22, 2011. The Commission is a five-member independent body that is respon-

sible for developing and managing the process to select, license, oversee, and regulate all expanded gaming facilities in the Commonwealth. The costs associated with operating the state’s gaming commission is paid for by the gaming industry and not by Massachusetts tax dollars.

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Annual DiDomenico Foundation St. Patrick’s Day kick-off roast is set for March 12

Governor Charlie Baker (R-Massachusetts) and Attorney General Maura Healey (D-Massachusetts) will join host State Senator Sal DiDomenico (D-Everett) at the head table for the Annual DiDomenico Foundation St. Patrick’s Day Celebration on Saturday, March 12, beginning at 6:30 pm at the Bunker Hill Knights of Columbus, 545 Medford Street in Charlestown. Baker and Healey play a part in the event along with over 75 federal, state, and local elected officials confirming they will also join what is sure to be a hilarious evening of good-humored, at times self-deprecating political

satire, a hallmark of the annual kick-off of St. Patrick’s Day roast including; Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley, U.S. Attorney Rachel Rollins, Massachusetts State Senate President Karen Spilka, Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, State Auditor Suzanne Bump, Middlesex County District Attorney Marian Ryan, Suffolk County Sheriff Steve Tompkins, Middlesex County Sheriff Peter Koutoujian, Middlesex County Clerk of Courts Michael Sullivan, Governor’s Councilor Terry Kennedy and more! According to a spokesperson for Herb Reed Enterprises, LLC, “Rock & Roll, Vocal, and Gram-

my Halls of Fame group, The Platters (Only You, Twilight Time, The Great Pretender), will fly in for a special performance and join some of Boston’s well-known comedians to enhance the political humor.” In addition to a traditional Irish dinner, the night will include live Irish music, step dancers, bagpipers, and the annual presentation of the Golden Shamrock Award to a community leader. This year’s recipient is Gladys Vega of La Colaborativa in Chelsea. Gladys has been a hero in the region during the pandemic making it her mission to save her community from the ravages of COVID-19.

This event is one of the most popular St. Patrick’s Day traditions in the Greater Boston area, and Senator Nick Collins (D-South Boston), the host of the Annual South Boston St. Patrick’s Day Breakfast, will also be at the event. For tickets and event information, please call (617) 387-3327. Proceeds will go to The DiDomenico Foundation, which funds educational scholarships for graduating high school students, as well as a giant toy drive during the holiday season for domestic violence and homeless shelters throughout Greater Boston.

CONTACTS: Media Logistics and Informa-



Rock & Roll, Vocal, and Grammy Halls of Fame group, The Platters will be part of the entertainment.

tion, Frederick J. Balboni, Jr. (978) 518-7463. fbalconi@balbonicg.com. DiDomenico Foundation Information, Tricia DiDomenico (617) 818-4661.

FELICIA KRENTZMAN WEDS RICHARD VALERI JR.

Felicia Krentzman and Richard Valeri Jr. were married on August 16, 2020 in a ceremony at the Our Lady of Grace Church. Felicia and Richard were originally scheduled to get married on another day, but

it had to be moved due to the pandemic. The couple then decided to get married on what would have been Felicia’s Papa, Rocco Ciampa’s 102nd birthday. Felicia’s parents, Mark and Maria Krentzman, her

Nana, Mary Ciampa, her brother, Joseph Krentzman, Richard’s parents, Marion and Richard Valeri, his sister, Alicia Green and Brandon Green, and his grandmother, Grace Valeri, attended the wedding ceremony.

Richard and Felicia were able to have all of their friends and family with them at the Tupper Manor on September 19, 2021 for their renewal and celebration.



Pictured at the wedding ceremony at Our Lady of Grace Church are: Father James Barry, Joseph Krentzman, Mark Krentzman, Maria Krentzman, Mary Ciampa, Felicia Valeri, Richard Valeri, Grace Valeri, Marion Valeri, Richard Valeri Sr., Alicia Green, and Brandon Green.



Felicia Valeri and Richard Valeri Jr. are pictured on the day of their beautiful and elegant wedding reception held Sept. 19, 2021 at Tupper Manor in Beverly.



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MVRCS’ girls excel in swimming states

Mystic Valley Regional Charter School’s (MVRCS) girls swimming program concluded a historic postseason last weekend at the MIAA Division 2 State championships held at Boston University. The girls competed against some of the top competition in the Commonwealth and emerged with a 19th place finish, highlighted by multiple season and lifetime best swims.

In the first event of the day, the girls 200 medley relay team of freshman Lana Albuquerque, grade 8 student Britney Nayiga, senior Deanna Guo, and Grade 8 student Isabella Cirame finished with a time of 1:56.82, which was good for a 12th place overall finish. The girls cut almost three full seconds off their previous best time. The relay was highlighted by Guo’s 27.57 butterfly split and Nayiga’s 32.94 breaststroke split.

Guo concluded her epic

career in the maroon and gold by continuing to lead the Eagles in state championship meets. First up in the 100 butterfly she shaved three seconds from her previous seed time to finish in 10th place. In her other individual race of the day, the 100 backstroke, Guo continued to drop time, finishing in 1:01.61 for a 9th place finish. Guo will be forever remembered in Eagles swimming lore as the highest point scorer having scored in both sectionals and state meets since Grade 7.

Next up, in the 200 freestyle relay, Guo once again led a great group of young eagles to a top 10 finish. The girls time of 1:44.63 is an in-season best and good for a 9th place finish overall. Joining her on the relay was Albuquerque and Grade 8 students Britney Nayiga and Isabella Cirame. Guo’s split of 25.05 was one of the fastest anchor splits in the field.

Nayiga completed her Grade 8 campaign in the 100 breaststroke. Similar to her sectional swim Britney was out fast in the first 50 and used a strong kick to bring the race home in a lifetime best of 1:13.27, while finishing just off the scoring in 19th place, she was the fastest freshman or 8th grader in the event.

Finally, in the 400 Freestyle relay, a glimpse of the bright future was shown in spectacular fashion as Albuquerque, freshman Crystal Tang, Cirame, and Nayiga finished with an in-season best time of 3:59.07 with each girl swimming better than their seed to drop almost three seconds off their entry time.

“This group of girls continues to impress me with their hard work and dedication all season. This was never more apparent in the way they attacked every single race at BU today,” coach Andrew Di-



Pictured are Isabella Cirame, Crystal Tang, Lana Albuquerque, Deanna Guo and Britney Nayiga in foreground. Coach Andrew DiGiacomo in background.

Giacomo said. “I would like to further point out the significant impact Deanna Guo has had on our program and how much we will truly miss her next year. To swim the way she did this season and come out with such fast times at states is so impressive.

She has laid the groundwork for what it means to be successful in this sport for all the younger girls on the team. We are incredibly lucky to be part of a school that wants to see these young men and women succeed and will go above and beyond for

them. It was a phenomenal season and only sets us up to keep rolling into next year. I know I have said it many times, but the results from today only further show that the future is very very bright here at Mystic Valley.”

MVRCS kindergarten students combine lessons of both history and community service

Members of Mystic Valley Regional Charter School (MVRCS) kindergarten classes celebrated the legacy of Abraham Lincoln while also fulfilling a key part of the school’s mission in a recent community service initiative. Steeped in American Culture, the school incorporates key values and ideals of our culture into daily character education lessons and general curriculum.

Paying homage to Pres-

ident Lincoln’s generosity and to commemorate his birthday in mid-February, the school held a fundraiser to benefit a local organization, the Malden Warming Center (MWC) located across the street from the school’s kindergarten campus. The MWC is a collaborative service providing a safe warm place for those experiencing homelessness during the winter months.

The endeavor entailed students bringing in a

penny (bearing Lincoln’s image) and anonymous donors did the rest. Monies raised went directly towards the donation of food and snacks for guests utilizing the MWC.

In early March, MWC Director Pastor Gerry Whetstone paid a visit to campus to personally thank students and their families for their generous donations.



Pictured in the foreground: MVRCS Assistant Superintendent Mr. Chris Finn, Pastor Whetstone and MVRCS Director/Superintendent Alex Dan.

Malden Catholic names Joe Gaff as head football coach

Malden Catholic announced that Joe Gaff has been hired as the Head Football Coach. Joe Gaff brings an extensive football coaching background that includes thirty years of total coaching experience, with fifteen of those years in the position of head coach. Gaff has successfully served as Head Varsity Coach in the past at Malden Catholic from 2005 to 2008. Subsequent to his tenure at MC, Joe served as both Defensive Coordinator and Head Coach at Boston College High School, and helped lead the team to Super Bowl championships in 2008 and 2011. Prior to his time in the Catholic Conference, Joe had a successful run as Head Coach at Chelsea High School leading them to a Super Bowl as well. To complement his high school experience, Gaff also coached football at the college level at Tufts University.

“Coach Gaff’s strong ability to connect with others, demonstrated drive to succeed and skills for developing talent the right way made Joe really stand out during the search for a coach. As we went through the process, Gaff checked off all the boxes and he is a perfect fit for Malden Catholic,” stated



Joe Gaff.

MC Athletic Director Bill Raycraft. “This is an exciting time for MC’s Football Program and there has been quite a buzz in the community regarding his hiring,” Raycraft added.

Gaff is a thirty-two-year veteran of the Everett Police Department and currently a Police Sergeant for the city. Gaff stated, “I am looking forward to honoring the successful tradition of Malden Catholic and continuing to build on the current football program. The pieces are in place for us to grow the program to the next level - where our students, staff and alumni expect to be. We will work hard to develop a physical football team that is dominant on both lines of scrimmage and has a dynamic balanced offense and an assertively stout defense.”

“Joe Gaff has not only proven himself an excel-

lent football coach, but he has also shown both in his time at Malden Catholic in various coaching roles and through this hiring process, that he understands MC’s mission and deeply cares about our student-athletes. He is committed to their success both in the classroom as well as the field,” commented Malden Catholic Headmaster, John Thornburg.

Since 1932, Malden Catholic High School has shaped emerging leaders in our community, claiming a Nobel Laureate, a Senator, two ambassadors and countless community and business heads among its alumni. Annually, graduates attend some of the nation’s most renown universities including Harvard, Georgetown, Brown, Cornell, Tufts, Georgia Tech, Boston College and Amherst College. Foundational to student success is Malden Catholic’s codivisional model which offers the best of both worlds, single-gender academics during the day and integrated social and extracurricular opportunities after school. Malden Catholic is known in the community for its rigorous academics, SFX Scholars Program and award-winning STEM program. Malden

Catholic curriculum is designed to improve individual growth mindset, leadership principles and success outcomes along with integrating the Xavarian values of trust, humility, compassion, simplicity and zeal. <https://www.maldencatholic.org>.



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Info Sessions
Information Sessions will be held via Zoom
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The six townhomes are identical inside, with 1,600 sq.ft. of living space across three floors, 3 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, built-in washer/dryer, a patio, and one parking space. The six Townhomes at St. Therese are part of a condominium responsible for upkeep of the full building and the open space associated with the building. The Neighborhood Developers, Inc. estimates that condo fees will cost each household around \$160/mos, though this will be set by the condo association after all units have been purchased.

Requirements

In order to purchase one of the Townhomes at St. Therese, applicants will need to have a mortgage pre-approval and have attended a homebuyer counseling course with a HUD certified counselor within the last 2 years prior to purchasing.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

PROJECT BEFORE PLANNING BOARD

CHELSEA - Plans for a long-awaited affordable housing project at 361 Broadway were unveiled at last week’s Planning Board meeting.

However, the Planning Board will not take up consideration of the site plan review and recommendations to the Zoning Board for the project until its March 22 meeting. Several Planning Board members were concerned that a revised plan was forwarded to the planning department several hours before the meeting, and wanted the additional time for a further review of the plan.

The project proposed by Arx Urban calls for the renovation of the existing Broadway building, and the demolition of the adjacent commercial garage to make way for a new building that will ultimately result in 62 residential units.

“We are a socially minded developer based out of Boston, and we have been working on this project with the city of Chelsea for a few years now, and we are very excited to unveil it,” said Benjamin Moll, one of the founders of Arx Urban.

The development, known as 4th @ Broadway, will take up about half of a city block between 5th St. and 4th St. on Broadway, Moll said.

“An affiliate of ours acquired the building almost five years ago with the intent to redevelop the back portion of the garage,” said Moll.

Overall, Moll said Arx Urban is proposing a 62 unit, mixed-income project with a large affordable housing component which will include the rehabilitation of the existing 19-unit building, as well as keeping the current six commercial tenants of the building in place with below market rates.

Ultimately, Moll said he anticipates the 60 percent of the units will be available at 60 percent of the Area Median Income or below, which he added far exceeds the criteria of Chelsea’s inclusionary zoning ordinance.

The 361 Broadway building has a long history in the city, having burned down during the Great Fire of 1908 and then being rebuilt in 1916 as part of the redevelopment of Bellingham Square. It was known as the Executive Building and hosted the Yiddish Theater as well as other performing arts initiatives throughout the 1940s before it transitioned into a more traditional commercial building.

Since the 1980s, the building has been eyed by developers, and projects as large as 135 units were proposed as late as 2006, according to Moll.

Moll said his team has been meeting with city leaders and organizations and has much support for

the project.

“The real key goal is to create income restrictions for a range of Chelsea residents ... and we want to preserve the existing local retailers,” said Moll.

The project will consist of two buildings that will be connected, with a courtyard in between. Moll said the project will also bring streetscape improvements and make the area more pedestrian friendly.

EDWARDS TAKES AIM AT SUBSTATION LOCATION

EAST BOSTON - Last week, Sen. Lydia Edwards, who will continue to serve as Eastie City Councilor until April 30, announced legislation in the Boston City Council that takes direct aim at Eversource’s controversial substation plan in East Eagle Square.

Edwards said the legislation aims to secure the environmental rights of Boston residents and ensure the city has adequate safeguards against impactful energy and industrial projects.

In January the Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) filed an appeal on behalf of more than ten residents in Eastie to stop construction of the Eversource substation that the state’s Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) recently granted a license.

In its appeal CLF argues state officials shut the community out of the planning process for the project, wrongfully characterized the substation as a water-dependent use, and failed to consider the negative impact on environmental justice populations.

Edwards’ said her council district and home neighborhood of Eastie are burdened by air pollution, a lack of tree canopy and open space, and climate impacts such as flooding and sea level rise—factors made worse by the irresponsible siting and expansion of certain energy and industrial facilities.

“Residents of the City of Boston have repeatedly been denied environmental rights which are fundamental to our state constitution,” said Edwards. “Where justice has been denied, we will legislate new protections and safeguards for residents against energy companies that have abused their power for too long.”

Edwards’s “An Act to Secure Environmental Justice in the City of Boston”, a home rule petition, would make three targeted changes to Boston’s Zoning Enabling Act.

The legislation would empower the Building Commissioner of the City of Boston to enforce state constitution and law by issuing a stop work order

to projects that violate legally established environmental rights. It would remove a current exemption for utility companies from complying with Boston’s zoning code in the future as well as direct the Boston Zoning Commission to establish clear rules for zoning review of energy projects.

“We at GreenRoots have firsthand knowledge of how utility companies ignore communities and fast track processes,” said John Walkey of GreenRoots. “This necessary tool will center community and environmental justice.”

CLF’s appeal challenges the site’s Chapter 91 state waterfront license. Massachusetts’ Chapter 91 regulations require waterfront projects to provide certain community benefits that are greater than project detriments. CLF argues by mischaracterizing this project as a water-dependent use, Eversource and state officials are effectively sidestepping more rigorous review and public benefit requirements that should be required for this site.

Eastie residents were promised an athletic field and natural flood protection buffer on the Condor Street property, which was City land until Eversource was given the prime waterfront site in a hastily arranged land swap with the City to build the new Bremen Street Branch Library. Eversource owned the land the current library sits on but was given city land on the Chelsea Creek so the library could be built.

Prior to the land swap, the City’s Inspectional Services Department granted Eversource a complete waiver on basic City review of the project. The City gave Eversource this rarely-given blanket waiver without any notice to neighbors or opportunity for comment.

“The East Boston community deserves to have their voices heard,” said CLF Vice President Staci Rubin. “Officials have repeatedly ignored the fact that residents overwhelmingly oppose the Eversource project in their neighborhood. Senator Edwards is absolutely right to continue to push for environmental justice for East Boston.”

The state’s Energy Facilities Siting Board (EFSB) unanimously approved Eversource’s highly controversial plan to build a new substation in February 2021.

NOW THAT’S A SNOWMAN



If you’ve driven down Chester Avenue in Winthrop this past week, you’ve probably noticed the massive new neighbor. Winthrop resident Susan Giarratani shown with her 8-foot tall snowman, Lumpy, made following the most recent snowstorm.

Despite state Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Kathleen Theoharides saying at Monday’s hearing that the substation would be placed in a “heavily, heavily industrialized area within an environmental justice community that has historically suffered disproportionate environmental harms and a heavy burden of infrastructure” she still voted in favor of Eversource’s plans as an EFSB board member.

The project was then granted a license from the DEP.

During Boston’s Municipal Election in November a non-binding ballot question was posed to voters here and across the city asking if the substation should be sited in East Eagle Square. An overwhelming number of voters thought Eversource should not build a substation in Eastie and seek a nearby alternative location such as non-residential Massport land at Logan Airport.

During the election 5,755 Eastie voters voted “NO” on Question 2 with only 600 voting “YES”. A NO vote meant that the voter opposed building the substation at the proposed East Eagle Square location and favored locating the facility at a secure location such as Logan Airport.

Citywide 101,953 voters voted “NO” on the ballot question with only

19,797 voting “YES”. At 101,953 NO votes against the substation received the largest single vote total for any ballot measure or candidate in Boston over the last 17 municipal elections according to the City of Boston Election Department records.

Historically, a non-binding ballot question provides information to elected officials and the public of voter sentiment on a particular issue and it seems most Bostonians are on Eastie’s side when it comes to this particular issue.

Edwards is filing the home rule petition as a city councilor and will seek local passage prior to her conclusion of service on the council in April.

VONG IS MAYOR'S COMMUNICATION MANAGER

LYNN - By any description, the position of communications manager for a mayor is vital, especially in these times when people are used to receiving news directly and instantaneously.

When you’re 22 years old and you’re the communication manager for the mayor of a city with close to 100,000 residents - well, it can be an eye-opening experience.

Valerie Vong is a Dean’s List student and will graduate in May with honors

See REGION Page 9

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Region //

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

from Clark University, a highly selective college located in Worcester.

Vong worked as an intern and then became digital media director on Jared Nicholson’s campaign for mayor in 2021. When Nicholson, who like Vong has some impressive academic credentials (Princeton, Harvard Law School) of his own, was elected mayor in November, Vong applied for a position in the Nicholson Administration and was hired to be communications manager for the Mayor’s Office.

What’s it like to have such a key role in the day-to-day life of the city?

“It definitely gets a bit overwhelming, however, I feel very happy and proud, and I’m excited to be able to have such a large position assisting the city forward,” said Vong.

Vong has several responsibilities in the Mayor’s Office.

“I do press releases, I run the Mayor’s social media, I make all the graphics, I do a lot of the communications stuff (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube),” summarized Vong.

A proud Lynn English graduate

A member of one of the first Cambodian families to settle in Lynn, Vong is a 2018 graduate of Lynn English High School where she was an inductee in the National Honor Society and president of numerous clubs. She is fluent in four languages, English, Khmer, Japanese and Korean.

Vong has been a remote, full-time college student at Clark for the last five semesters due to the pandemic.

“I definitely miss being on campus and interacting with my friends and professors,” said Vong, who was nominated “Clarkie of the Week,” which is an ongoing honor for students who have made outstanding contributions to the school community.

She has a double major in English and Environmental Science with a concentration in Public Policy and Environmental Policy.

Vong is also a Fellow for AAWPI (Asian-American Women Political Initiative), an organization that highlights Asian-American women in politics, and an intern for MASSPIRG Students.

Vong’s sister, Veronica, is a Lynn English graduate and currently a student at Brandeis University. Her brother, Kellsun, is a second grader in the Lynn school district.

Praise for Mayor Nicholson

Valerie Vong is thankful to Mayor Nicholson for hiring her to work in his Administration.

“I’m incredibly appreciative of everything that Mayor Nicholson has done for the city, even prior to being elected as mayor,” said Vong. “He’s such a role model to me every day throughout my pursuit of education and my career.”

Noting Mayor Nicholson’s connection to Harvard, Vong added, “It’s kind of funny. I’m currently in the application process for graduate school, and one of them is going to be Harvard’s Kennedy School, so I think it’s really interesting because the Mayor went to Harvard as well.”

REVERE COUNCIL SUPPORTS UKRAINE

REVERE - The Revere City Council voted unanimously on a resolution Monday night affirming support for Ukrainian sovereignty, the people of Ukraine, and their right to self-determination.

The late motion submitted by Councillor Richard Serino pointed out that Revere is home to many who have sought a better life in the United States of America due to unrest in other countries around the world, including many Eastern-Europeans.

The resolution by Serino, and adopted by the entire Council, states that, “the Revere City Council stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine in their fight against Russian oppression, aggression, and annexation” and that, “Revere stands in support of our Ukrainian-American friends and neighbors who are residents of the City in Revere and who might, themselves, have family and friends who remain in Ukraine during these uncertain times.”

“As the Ukrainian National Anthem states, “Ukraine’s freedom has not yet perished. Ukraine is not yet dead, nor its glory and freedom. Fate shall smile once more. And we too shall rule in a free land of our own and will lay down our souls and our bodies to attain our freedom,” said Serino after the resolution was read by the clerk. “I understand that as a city council across the world from where these events are currently taking place we don’t have the authority to do anything tangible that will ease this global situation. However we can and we should use our voice and our platform to let our Ukrainian American residents know that we stand with them in solidarity, and that we, not only as Councillors but as Americans, believe in democracy and the right to live in a free society. More importantly, as human beings, we recognize that what’s going on in the Ukraine is immoral and wrong. On the same token we should show that average citizens and local leaders in the United States stand with the Ukrainian people, and that we admire them for their tenacity and for sticking to their convictions.”

SEVERAL WORKERS TO RETIRE

WINTHROP - The Winthrop School Committee met on Monday, Feb. 28, announcing updated

COVID protocols, as well as that the district’s Diversity, Equity & Inclusion resource page is again up and running.

COVID

Students in the district are no longer required to wear masks. However, other safety precautions remain in place. Schools continue to enforce social distancing, frequent handwashing and stricter cleaning protocols. In the cafeteria, students sit separately to reduce spread.

“The mask mandate has been removed, but COVID hasn’t gone away,” said Supt. Lisa Howard.

The district will continue to monitor the situation and adjust its policies accordingly. Group seating in the classroom and cafeteria may be a possibility in the future.

DEI Resource Page

The district’s updated Diversity, Equity & Inclusion resource webpage is now available on the WPS website.

The site was designed “for educators, school staff, parents, public officials, and members of the community who are seeking to improve their cultural competency, better understand the experiences of marginalized groups, and identify ways we can create a more inclusive environment and society for all Winthrop residents.”

As the Transcript reported in August, the page had been disabled to thoroughly vet the materials and be more all-encompassing. One can access the page

by going to winthrop.k12.ma.us and clicking on the DEI Resources tab.

Upcoming Retirements

Several district staff have announced their retirements.

After 36 years as an educator, Rayna Aronson will retire as a Winthrop High School math teacher.

Bernadette Carsley is a sixth-grade science and ELA teacher who has worked with the district for over 30 years. She will retire on June 30.

Marie Finn is a physical education teacher at the Fort Banks Elementary School. She has been a teacher in the district for 42 years, and her final day will be March 4.

Michael Kirby, a sixth-grade teacher at the Winthrop Middle School, will retire on June 30 after 35 years of service.

Maura Sullivan will retire on June 30 from her position as an instructional technology teacher at the Fort Banks Elementary School. She first started teaching in the district 33 years ago.

General Updates

The district is currently in the process of building its budget. Administrators rebuild the budget entirely from scratch every year, based on past allocations and anticipated future needs.

Supt. Howard congratulated Winthrop athletes on an impressive season. She recognized individual students for their athletic accomplishments.

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CHURCH News

Mystic Side Congregational Church

News and Notes

Mystic Side Congregational Church is located in Everett, on Malden-Everett border, at 422 Main Street. We offer a warm, inviting atmosphere, and all are welcome. Our Sunday Church service starts at 10:30 a.m. and Communion is offered on the first Sunday of each month. A very pleasant coffee hour

and socializing follow our services. Parking is available in our lot next to the church on Wyllis Ave. (one way off Main Street). We look forward to welcoming you this Sunday.

**Mystic Side
Congregational Church
422 Main Street
Everett, MA**

Zion Church - Everett

News and Notes

Senior Pastor Bishop Robert G. Brown will be hosting Virtual Masses to bring the people together, spiritually while they can't physically. Their virtual sanctuaries can be accessed via their face-

book page, "Zion Church Ministries."

For more information, they can be reached online at zionchurchministries.com or via email at office@zionchurchministries.com

Glendale United Methodist Church

News and Notes

Glendale United Methodist Church is open to all and we welcome people of all faiths, race, nationalities and sexual preference. No one is ever turned away. If you are looking for a new home church, we would like you to check us out and let us know what we can do to make church a better fit in your life.

Bible Study: Consider joining us for Bible study on Sunday. We meet in the Church Parlor off the Chapel from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m.

Sponsor the bulletin! For a \$5 donation, you can dedicate the Sunday bulletin to recognize family, friends, or special occasions. There is a sign-up sheet in the Pastor's study. Feel free to choose your particular week and leave a copy of your dedication in the mail in that is on the Pastor's door. Please contact the Pastor if you have any questions.

Boy Scout Troop 814: Meet in Cooper Hall on Tues. evenings from 6-9 p.m. Cub Pack 11 meets on Saturday mornings.

NA Meetings – Mon.

Glendale Christian Lighthouse Church

News and Notes

Sunday 10:30 a.m. Worship service.

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Church at the Well Everett

News and Notes

Church at the Well Everett is a new church for Everett that will begin meeting in 2021. Check us out on Facebook at www.facebook.com/churchforeverett to view weekly devotions and updates, visit us at [\[everett.church\]\(http://everett.church\) to sign up for our newsletter and see how we can help you, or connect with the Everett Community Aid Network at \[www.everettcan.com\]\(http://www.everettcan.com\) to request any additional help.](http://www.for-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Grace Anglican Episcopal Church

News and Notes

Grace Anglican Episcopal Church is open & welcoming to all.

There are 2 services on Sundays: 10am English, 1pm South Sudanese Dinka

Come all and let us walk together in this sea-

son of hope, renewal and new beginnings.

**Grace Anglican
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Everett’s Francesca Mirthil wins prestigious Scholastic Art & Writing Awards

Pioneer Charter School of Science (PCSS), a K-12 public school network with campuses in Everett and Saugus, today announced that one of its students, Francesca Mirthil, won multiple Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. The annual awards are the longest running and most respected recognition program for creative teens in the country.

“Francesca has contributed so much to our PCSS community, and we’re glad to see her getting some well-earned praise,” said Barish Icin, Pioneer Charter School of Science’s Chief Executive Officer. “She has channeled her feelings and experiences into beautiful and thought-provoking art, and we could not be more proud of her. We’re



Francesca Mirthil.

all looking forward to seeing what she creates next.”

Francesca, currently a senior, submitted four poems and one critical essay, with the poem “Immigrant Hysteria” taking home the top honors with the Silver Key Award. The complete list of Francesca’s works are below and can be found here: Scholastic Poems

- “Immigrant Hysteria”, Silver Key Winner in Po-

etry Category

- “Hair That Grows Toward The Sun,” Honorable Mention in Critical Essay Category

- “Women Who Cook In The Kitchen,” Honorable Mention in Poetry Category

- “I Am A Woman Who Cries Under The Moon,” Honorable Mention in Poetry Category

- “Mint Tea,” Honorable Mention in Poetry Category

Founded in 1923 by Maurice Robinson, the awards have recognized some of America’s most celebrated artists and writers while they were teenagers, including: Tschabalala Self, Stephen King, Kay Walking Stick, Langston Hughes, Charles White, Joyce Carol Oates, and Andy Warhol.

The awards were created by Robinson to award academic excellence in a way comparable to athletic achievements, to encourage teachers and students to engage with the arts, and to develop a genuine appreciation for great literature and fine writing.

Francesca will be presented awards at a regional ceremony and exhibitions at a future date.

National Medalist works of art and writing are included in the annual National Exhibition. The 2020 and 2021 editions of the National Exhibition were hosted virtually; previous National Exhibitions have been mounted at The New School and Pratt Institute in New York City. Additional traveling exhibitions have been mounted nationwide

at institutions including the Museum of Fine Arts Houston, Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Arnot Art Museum, and Joslyn Art Museum.

Pioneer Charter School of Science I and II is a nationally ranked school honored by the U.S. News and World Report in its annual distinguished ‘Best High Schools’ rankings. PCSS I ranked 17th in Massachusetts among 365 high schools, and placed 15th out of high schools from the surrounding Boston Metro Area. Pioneer Charter School of Science II (PCSS II) was ranked fourth in Massachusetts among 365 high schools, and placed third out of high schools from the surrounding Boston Metro

Area. It also came in 198 in the national rankings.

With schools in Everett (PCSS I) and Saugus (PCSS II), Pioneer Charter School of Science offers a rigorous academic curriculum emphasizing math, science, and analytical thinking skills balanced by a strong foundation in the humanities. The school offers extended days/hours and career-oriented college preparation. Students must pass five math and five science classes in order to graduate - more than state standards, and students must complete 40 hours of community service. The school has a 195-day school calendar, extended days, after school tutoring and “voluntary” Saturday classes for students who need extra help.

CITY PAWS

Puppy dog tails

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Dogs’ tails are fascinating. You may think you know how they communicate with their tails, but subtle differences in tail position can make a difference. Here’s more about these expressive and useful appendages.

Anatomy and Types of Tails

The Farmer’s Dog website describes the anatomy of a dog’s tail. “Canine tails are the last segment of the spine and are made up of as many as 23 vertebrae that get progressively smaller from base to tip. The tail also includes muscles that enclose the bones, as well as tendons

and nerves.”

Breed standards for dogs have precise information about the characteristics required for a proper tail. Beagles always have a white tip on their tails to help spot them in high grass. Huskies should have lush tails they can use to wrap around their face for warmth and protection when resting. Retrievers’ tails should be otter-like to serve as a rudder when swimming. Dogs also use their tails to help them balance.

There are also curly tails sported by breeds like the Shiba Inu and the variant found in Pugs and Frenchies, the corkscrew tail. Greyhounds have whip tails. While a few breeds

like the Pembroke Welsh Corgi have a natural short stub of a tail, far too many dogs have had their tails docked purely for style. Fortunately, this practice is now illegal in many areas where it is considered animal cruelty.

Happy Tail Injuries

A dog’s tail can also alert you to a medical problem. Anytime you see your dog’s tail carried in an unusual position, do a bit of checking. It can signal something simple like an itchy hot spot on the skin to a more severe problem like a happy tail injury.

Dr. Marty Becker writing for VetStreet explains, “This type of injury occurs



Maggie bows to her play partner while furling the lovely feathers on her tail. Hugo is using his curled tail to help balance on three feet.

when a dog with an outgoing personality and a long tail repeatedly thwacks the tail against a hard surface such as a crate or wall. Really happy dogs — think Golden Retrievers or Cavaliers — or dogs with thin, delicate skin, such as Greyhounds, wag so hard and fast that a bleeding ulcer can develop on the tip of the tail.”

Talking Tails

A tail can say many things. To understand what the dog is communicating, you must look beyond the wag. Tail position, speed of the wag, and signals coming from elsewhere on the dog are all important.

For example, a tail held high and still or with stiff, small wags is a sign of a dog on alert and perhaps even threatening. A tail tucked between the legs can signify a fearful or submissive dog. Low, slow wags signal a dog questioning and unsure.

Feeling relaxed and secure, a dog holds their tail in its most natural position. Add a dose of happiness to that, and you’ll see a gentle wag. The return of a favorite person could bring on a mighty circular wag.

There are exceptions to these rules. For some breeds, like Greyhounds, a tail tucked between the legs is a natural position. A

shepherd will know that a herding dog, like a Border Collie, is concentrating on the job when the tail is tucked between the legs, and a wagging tail means the dog is goofing off.

The next time your dog is busy having a good sniff of the surroundings, entertain yourself by spotting as many types of dog tails as you can and identifying what each is telling the people and other dogs in the area.

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your request.


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Everett residents Ga-

briella Veneziale and Kira Wilcox were both named to the second quarter Honor Roll at Arlington Cath-

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